

go back and take a look at the Fairbury resolution. And the reason why you ought to do that is that the Fairbury resolution has the Nebraska Legislature, in effect, saying to a local board, do not close a campus. Do not close a campus unless you can find a compelling reason to do so. Now, when I take that resolution and when I add to that resolution the passage of LB 796 which clearly authorizes increases in mill levies, including Metro, including Omaha, what I really see the Legislature saying to the local boards is we have given you additional taxing authority. You can use that and, in fact, if you decide to provide greater efficiencies and greater economies in your system, we are prepared to intervene. We are prepared to interpose our own will. We are prepared to say, no. We are prepared to make it more difficult for you. That is a bad message. It is a bad message for us to give in these hard economic times. I am simply suggesting that the reading of this bill be delayed until such time as the Fairbury resolution is reconsidered. That is the purpose of the bracket motion.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Okay, Senator Johnson was closing. The question is, shall LB 796 be bracketed until April 1? All those in favor of that motion will vote aye, those opposed will vote no. Have you all voted? Have you all voted who care to do so? You have got 10 seconds left to vote. Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 17 ayes, 23 nays on the motion to bracket the bill, Mr. President.

SENATOR CARSTEN: The motion to bracket fails. Proceed to read the bill.

CLERK: (Read LB 796 on Final Reading.)

SENATOR CARSTEN: All provisions relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB 796 pass? All those in favor vote aye, those opposed vote no. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Record vote read. See page 1522 of the Legislative Journal.) 35 ayes, 12 nays, 1 present and not voting, 1 excused and not voting, Mr. President.

SENATOR CARSTEN: The bill is passed. The next bill, Mr. Clerk, is LB 888.